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ABSTRACT

This book provides an introduction to early intervention programs, focusing on programs that reflect a transactional model of family-centered services employing collaborative and interdisciplinary techniques. Chapter 1 presents the historical context of early intervention services. Chapter 2 defines the various disabilities and risk conditions. The importance of cross-cultural competence in providing effective early intervention to diverse populations is discussed in chapter 3. Chapter 4 describes the development of a model of service delivery, and chapter 5 covers working in partnership with families. Staffing and staff development is discussed in chapter 6; and chapter 7 focuses on coordinating screening and identification efforts. Chapter 8 deals with assessing and identifying family needs and resources, and chapter 9 describes the designing of the curriculum; and chapter 10 the creating of quality learning environments both in the home and at early intervention centers. Chapter 11 addresses administrative issues dealing with program components. Chapter 12 discusses the need for community collaboration. Finally, chapter 13, contributed by Patrick J. Harrison covers program evaluation. Appendices present relevant legislation lists of professional and parent organizations and other resources, a list of typical developmental milestones, and guidelines for preparing Individualized Family Service Plans. (PB)

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